20.   (New) A method for remote updating of intelligent household appliances,

comprising:

storing a plurality of recipe programs in a user profile;

downloading at least one of the plurality of recipe programs to an intelligent appliance;

and

after downloading at least one of the plurality of recipe programs to the intelligent

appliance, transmitting, without user intervention, a new recipe program to the intelligent

appliance.

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-15 were rejected.

With this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 7, 9, 11 and 15 were amended, claims 16-20 were added and

claim 8 was cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-7 and 9-20 are at issue in the above-identified

application.

Claims 1-6 and 9-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Abrams (U.S. Patent No. 6,587,739). Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as

being anticipated by *Abrams et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,587,739) and *Ali* (U.S. Patent No.

6,549,818). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

First, Applicant submits that *Abrams* does not disclose or even suggest "receiving a

message from the intelligent appliance requesting a new recipe program, where the message is

sent from the intelligent appliance without user intervention." *Abrams* discloses a console that

can be used to control a number of kitchen appliances. *Abrams* then teaches that the console

(when in the form of an alarm clock) can download, without user intervention, the "correct time

and software updates." (Col. 13, lines 61-64). However, with regards to recipes, *Abrams* specifically teaches that the console (when in the form of a kitchen console) is used to manually browse the internet for new recipes. (Col. 20, lines 44-54) Therefore, *Abrams* actually teaches away from the present invention by requiring that the recipes be obtained manually as opposed to other information such as the time and software updates that can be obtained automatically.

By contrast, amended Claims 1 and 10 require, among other limitations, that the message requesting a <u>new recipe program</u> be "sent from the intelligent appliance <u>without user intervention</u>." This provides numerous advantages over the cited art including, but not limited to, the ability to provide automatic updates of the plurality of recipes. As the cited reference does not disclose receiving recipes "without user intervention", Applicant submits that independent Claims 1 and 10, as well as dependent Claims 2-6 and 11-15 are in condition for allowance.

Second, Applicant submits that neither *Abrams* not *Ali* disclose or fairly teach a data structure having a unique product code element associated with at least one of the plurality of recipe program elements, as required by amended Claim 7. As the Examiner notes in the Office Action (in reference to Claim 9), *Abrams* does not teach a unique product code (such as UPC code element), but instead only discloses the use of a house code. However, the examiner fails to explain how the use of a house code would make obvious the use of a product code. The house code is simply used to designate all of the components that are to be used within one house, or with one specific controller. A unique product code, on the other hand, is used to associate a recipe program with a specific product. Therefore, the disclosure of a house code would in no way disclose or even suggest the use of a unique product code. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 7, as well as dependent Claim 9 are in condition for allowance.

Additionally, Applicant has also added new independent Claims 18, 19, and 20. Claim 18 requires, among other limitations, "determining whether the code input by the code input device is associated with any one of a plurality of recipe programs stored in a memory in the intelligent appliance; and transmitting a request for a recipe program if the input code from the code input device is not associated with any one of the plurality of recipe programs." Claim 19 requires, among other limitations, that "if the new recipe program is not found in a database, updating the user profile with a continuing request for the new recipe program." Claim 20 requires, among other limitations, "after downloading at least one of the plurality of recipe programs to the intelligent appliance, transmitting, without user intervention, a new recipe program to the intelligent appliance." As none of the cited references disclose these limitations, Applicant submits that independent Claims 18 and 19, as well as dependent Claim 20, are also in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Early notification of such effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any remaining issue, Applicant kindly requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 25, 2004   By:
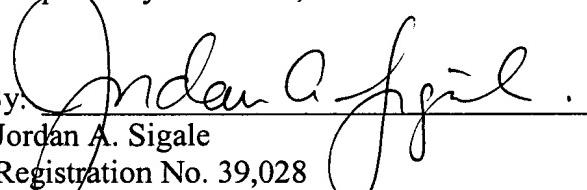
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